

An Early Legislative List

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readers, and was able to do so through the courtesy of former Justice Frederick F. Faville, now code editor and reporter of the Supreme Court of Iowa and his assistant, Mr. Wayne A. Faupel.

The series has proven a popular feature of THE ANNALS throughout the year, during which period extra sheets of that section of our publication have been printed and now will be bound in pamphlet form and issued by the code editor, and may be obtained from him or the State Printing Board.

AN EARLY LEGISLATIVE LIST

Statistics relative to the Ninth General Assembly, of the State of Iowa, and the State departments, civil and military. This is the pretentious title of unpretentious pamphlet of sixteen pages, by Ed. B. Stillman, compiler, printed in 1862. The compiler explains that a previous legislature had provided for the printing of "a legislative compendium," but failed to provide the money therefor. However, he had made out a list and printed same.

Some features are different from the present day customs. For instance, in the list of members of the General Assembly the weight of each and every one is given. Probably in view of the then approaching era of hostilities, much stress was laid on the size of men in the public service. A survey of the list shows that while Gov. Samuel J. Kirkwood weighed 191 pounds, his adjutant general. Nathaniel B. Baker, weighed 200 pounds. Other weights recorded were: Elijah Sells, secretary of state, 175; J. W. Cattell, auditor, 180; John W. Jones, treasurer, 225. There was failure to find out the weight of either of the three justices of the supreme court.

In the House of Representatives W. E. Woodworth of Henry county was listed as weighing only 112 pounds, while near him sat M. Price of Muscatine, 245. In the Senate, there was G. W. McCrary of Lee, weight 100, and in the same body M. V. Burdick of Winneshiek carrying 235 pounds.

Even at that time there was not a member of either house reported as a native of Iowa. There were from Pennsylvania 23, Ohio 22, New York 20 and Indiana 10. Others gave nativity as England, Ireland, Germany, France, Scotland, Norway and Canada. The governor, S. J. Kirkwood, was a native of Maryland. The speaker, Rush Clark, was born in Pennsylvania. Charles Aldrich, chief clerk of the House, came from New York and had been five years in Iowa. J. R. Needham, of Sigourney, Lieutenant Governor, who presided over the senate, was a native of Ohio.

This legislative list published 82 years ago, when Iowa was only 16 years old as a state, included a number of names of persons whose names will be frequently encountered by one who thumbs through the pages of Iowa history. A few selected are: Senate—T. W. Woolson, J. M. Shaffer, James Redfield, Geo. W. McCrary, B. F. Gue, John G. Foote, John F. Duncombe, L. L. Ainsworth. House—J. E. Blackford, S. H. Fairall, E. J. Gault, Jed Lake, James T. Lane, T. C. McColl, John Mitchell, Isaac Pendleton, J. H. Rothrock, Peter T. Russell.

A list was appended of the field officers of the Iowa militia. Among the colonels were J. F. Bates, James M. Tuttle, G. M. Dodge, J. G. Lauman, M. M. Crocker, H. F. Reid and C. Bussey. Of lieutenant colonels or majors therewere W. H. Merritt, John Scott, C. L. Mathias, J. C. Parrott, J. L. Geddes, F. G. Herron, M. M. Price, H. H. Trimble, T. Drummond, W. M. Stone, W. S. Robertson, J. M. Corse, E. W. Rice, and W. W. Belknap.

Among the postoffice addresses given were some perhaps unfamiliar to postal clerks of today, as for instance, McKissick's Grove, Onion Grove, Wiscotta, Clio, Makee, Yankee Settlement, Oak Point, Peck's, Locust Lane, Spring Rock, Pilot Grove and Bowen's Prairie.

In these later days what the men call their "Herd Book" contains similar information, omitting weights, and the final list has a hundred or more clerks, which would have been held to be inexcusable extravagance in the olden times.

A check-over of the list shows that over thirty members had come to Iowa either in territorial days or before. It will be recalled that just before the beginning of statehood was the time of great moving into Iowa from the states to the east.

PIONEER LAWMAKERS POSTPONE SESSION

The Pioneer Lawmakers of Iowa, like other good American patriots, have yielded to the stern necessities of a war-torn world. Their officers considered the request of the Government that the holding of conventions be abandoned, save those that have to do with the war effort. They promptly decided that to comply with such request was a patriotic duty, and the membership will forego the pleasure of another reunion this year. Upon one other previous occasion similar action was taken, the reunion omitted and officers held over.

A program for the 1945 session in the State Historical building and the joint assembly meeting with the Fifty-first General Assembly had been prepared and speakers invited to participate. It is to be regretted that the membership of the association are deprived of the enjoyment and satisfaction of an opportunity of renewal of old acquaintances. They are agreed that it is their first duty to contribute loyally in action and effort to the one objective of winning the war and securing a just and lasting peace.

Who knows where there is an American flag of 29 stars; one made and used at the time when the 29th state, which was Iowa, had just been admitted? That, also, was the eleventh flag of the United States. It was the official flag for only a year. An original is wanted to be flown at the Fort McHenry National monument and historic shrine, at Baltimore, where the flag, with fewer stars was seen by Mr. Key and the famous song written. Should you know of such a flag or that one may be available advise the editor of THE ANNALS.

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